



PATENT

TECH CENTER 1800/290

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Tarro et al.

Serial No.

09/125,122

Examiner: Fitzgerald, D.

Filed

January 4, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1646

For

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING

NATURAL HUMAN ALPHA-INTERFERON

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EK839857604US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

BOX CPA

Sir:

In lieu of responding to the pending Official Action dated March 17, 2000,

Applicants herewith file a request for a continued prosecution application, together with a

Petition to Extend Time for a period of three months, and the fee required for a small entity.

Prior to the examination of the above-identified continued prosecution application, please make the following amendments of record. The required substitute specification, and a response to the issues raised in the Official Action, will follow. Some of the bases of rejection are obviated by the amendments to the claims contained herein. None of the amendments constitute new matter.